

Holiday Events at Springfield's Historic Old State Capitol and Dana-Thomas House

Special events to celebrate the holiday season are planned at the Old State Capitol and Dana-Thomas House state historic sites in Springfield, hosted by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources this November and December.

Both venues will be closed on Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's days.

Old State Capitol

The Old State Capitol, a reconstruction of Illinois' fifth statehouse, served as the seat of state government and a center of Illinois political life from 1839 to 1876. It is open daily from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Santa Claus and Family Events

With seasonal decorations in place for the holidays, families are invited to visit the Old State Capitol for photos with Santa Claus and holiday games for children.

--Saturdays from November 30 through December 21
1:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m.

--Wednesdays from December 4 through 18
5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

Holiday Musical Performances at the Old State Capitol

Talented performers from Springfield and central Illinois will be featured throughout the season on select dates at the Old State Capitol:

Saturday, November 30
2:30 p.m.
Debbie Eddy Flute Choir

Wednesday, December 4
6:30 p.m.
Lincoln Magnet School Chorus

Saturday, December 7
2:30 p.m.
Old State Capitol Chorale

Wednesday, December 11
5:15 p.m.
Prairie Winds Flute Ensemble
6:30 p.m.
St. Agnes Signing Aces

Saturday, December 14
2:30 p.m.
Springfield Youth Symphony Orchestra

Wednesday, December 18
6:30 p.m.
Fantastic Falcons from Franklin Middle School

Saturday, December 21
2:30 p.m.
Christian Trade Gospel Singers

Dana-Thomas House

The Dana-Thomas House, built between 1902 and 1904, is perhaps the best-preserved of Wright's "Prairie Style" homes, with more than 400 pieces of specially made art glass and original furnishings. The house, located at Fourth and Lawrence Streets in Springfield, is open each Monday and Tuesday from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. and each Wednesday through Sunday from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Holidays at the Dana-Thomas House

Evening Design Tour with Volunteer Larry Betz
Friday, November 29
5:15 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.
Reservations are required and may be made by calling 217-782-6776

Holiday Walk Evening Tours
Saturday, November 30
Wednesdays, December 4, 11 and 18
5:15 p.m., 6:30 p.m., 7:00 p.m.
Reservations are encouraged and may be made by calling 217-782-6776

Architectural Tours with Anthony Rubano
Wednesday, December 4
Saturday, December 7
5:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.
Reservations are required and may be made by calling 217-782-6776

Holiday Design Tours with Members of the Springfield Civic Garden Club
Thursday, December 12, Friday, December 13, and Saturday, December 14
5:15 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.
Reservations are required and may be made by calling 217-782-6776

Luminaria Open House
Sunday, December 15
5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.
No reservations required

Art Glass Tour with volunteer Frank Marchant

Thursday, December 19

5:15 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Reservations are required and may be made by calling 217-782-6776

Design Concepts Tour with volunteer Larry Betz

Friday, December 20

5:15 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Reservations are required and may be made by calling 217-782-6776

The floral designs inside the Dana-Thomas House are created and donated by volunteers of the Springfield Civic Garden Club. Dozens of volunteers generously donate resources and hundreds of hours of time to create an inspiring holiday experience at the historic site. The Springfield Civic Garden Club was recently recognized by Garden Clubs of Illinois with a first-place award for floral design in historic preservation and by the National Garden Club as the overall winner in the Decoration of a Historic Building category.